



Raptor Recon Report

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To the cadets who have proven themselves worthy of the Grade:

c/Amn Shawn Stimmell

c/2Lt Leilani Miller

c/SAmn Andrew Roper

c/SAmn Nancy Brown

c/SAmn Aaron Griffith

c/A1C Dustin Chaves

JOB WELL DONE and CONGRATULATIONS!!

CIVIL AIR PATROL, A FAMILY AFFAIR!

*By SM Bob Conner
NCS PAO*

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA -- Civil Air Patrol, the benevolent auxiliary of the United States Air Force, an organization which holds their volunteer membership accountable to very high standards of honor, integrity, service and leadership can certainly add to their list of standards, yet another American favorite, family.

The Nellis Cadet Squadron of the Nevada Wing, Civil Air Patrol, based at Nellis Air Force Base, takes pride in the fact that much of the squadron reflects a family effort. A large portion of the cadet squadron's adult support staff are parents of the cadet membership, including the Deputy Commander, Aerospace Education, Cadet Programs, Public Affairs, Leadership, Administration, Personnel, Finance and Testing Officers. Many of the squadron's cadets have parents who have served or are currently serving in either the armed forces or the Civil Air Patrol and wish to continue the family tradition of service to their country.

Nellis Cadet Squadron can literally trace its roots to the very early years of the Civil Air Patrol through the squadron's Deputy Commander, Lt Col Richard Brown (USAF Retired). Lt Col Brown began his service to Civil Air Patrol in the mid to late 1940's, subsequently serving in the United States Air Force. Lt Col Brown's brother is also a member of Civil Air Patrol in the Nellis Senior Squadron.

Lt Col Richard Brown's son, David Brown (Lt Col, USAF Reserves), a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy (1980) serves as the Civil Air Patrol/Air Force liaison for Nellis Air Force Base while his wife, Maj Brenda Brown (USAF Retired), also served 16 years in the USAF. Retiring from the Air Force in the Las Vegas area to help operate the family

businesses in Las Vegas, she serves as the squadron's Orientation Flight Coordinator and Finance Officer.

The Brown family has four cadets in the Nellis Cadet Squadron; c/Airman First Class Nancy Brown, c/Airman Daniel Brown, c/Airman First Class Marie Brown and the squadron's Cadet Commander, c/Lt Col Philip Brown. Following in his father's foot steps, c/Lt Col Philip Brown received an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy just this month.

Active families also include: Lt Donald (Cadet Programs Officer), Lt Robin (Color Guard) and c/Amn Robert Freeman. Capt Gale (Aerospace Education and Testing Officer) and c/2Lt Jonathon Breen. Lt Kini (Administration and Personnel Officer) and C/CMSgt Leilani Miller. c/CMSgt is the squadron Executive Officer, after joining CAP 3.5 years ago. Cadet Miller's mother was also in CAP as a youngster. 2Lt Jean (Alternate Testing Officer) and c/2Lt Jordan Lightner. Bob (Leadership and Public Affairs Officer) and c/Amn Ashley Conner. **Civil Air Patrol is indeed a family affair!**

Civil Air Patrol takes pride in developing character in the youth who will take the future's leadership reigns and Nellis Cadet Squadron takes pride in the support provided by the parents of those youth, not only through active participation, but through support at home as well. The families of Nellis Cadet Squadron provide the backbone of the squadron by contributing freely, their time and resources to the success of Nellis Cadet Squadron.



NCS—DUAL CHARTERED WITH VENTURE SCOUTS

By Lt Col Richard Brown

Our Squadron's Venture Crew 1069 was formally chartered by the Boy Scouts of America in January 2003, just in time to participate in this year's Mountain Man Rendezvous on 6-7 February.

Venture scouting is coed, for young men and women 14 to 21 years old. Young men who have attained at least First Class rank in Boy Scouts can continue to Eagle rank in their old troop, in our Venture Crew or both. All crew members can earn the coveted Ranger and Silver awards, the Venture Scouting equivalent to the prestigious Eagle Scout award. The Ranger award is designed for those who enjoy the adventure and challenge of the great outdoors. The Bronze, Gold, and Silver Awards are for interest areas such as sports, outdoors, arts and hobbies, and youth ministries. You can earn more than one Silver award and the Ranger award if you are so motivated.

The Mountain Man Rendezvous is an annual event sponsored by the Boulder Dam Area Council of BSA. It draws together serious mountain man enthusiasts and just for fun participants from several states. Many wore frontier costumes, built authentic teepees, spread traditional swapping blankets, and added to the primitive atmosphere of the occasion held this year in ceremonial grounds in the MOAPA Indian reservation near Glendale. There were demonstrations and competition in about fifteen events such

as black powder shooting, bull whip, log sawing, archery, knife and tomahawk throwing, pioneering, tracking and trapping. Our Cadets did well in events for our first time participating, making the finals in several events.

Our special salute and thanks go to Cadet Kyle McDonald's dad, Edward McDonald, who brought his truck with a fully equipped kitchen to our campout. He spoiled us rotten with his culinary skills and such luxuries as chip and veggie dips, tossed salad with the works, grilled sirloin burgers, iced sodas galore, and drawers full of candy bars and gum. Camping out has never been so good.

We garnered several potential recruits from the adults and youth participants for our and the other local CAP Squadrons. There were many comments on how sharp our Cadets looked in their BDUs, including good words from the Nellis Senior Squadron Commander. He has suggested that we might help with event security next year. This would give Cadets Donaldson, Ramirez, and Carter a legitimate excuse for prowling around in the bushes all night.

Become part of the adventure by joining your fellow cadets in the Venture Scout Program. Lt Col Richard Brown has all the applications we need and will be more than happy to get you signed up.

NCS TAKES A TRIP TO THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

15-Apr-2003—Launch time 1900

The crews, composed of several of the members of NCS were launched into history from both Baikanur Cosmodrome and Kennedy Space Center, destination International Space Station.

Launching from the historical Baikanur Cosmodrome, some NCS members rode the improved Soyuz TMA-2 space capsule 250 miles into space to meet up with the International Space Station, a 20th Century engineering marvel.

Baikanur Cosmodrome, launching space travelers since the 1960's, is the site from which the Earth's first artificial satellite "Sputnik" and the Earth's first human, Yuri Gagarin were launched into orbit, is located in the Russian Republic of Kazakhstan.

The remainder of the NCS members launched from the Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral, Florida, USA aboard the Shuttle Atlantis to meet up with the others aboard ISS.

Equally historic, Kennedy Space Center has witnessed the launching of the U.S. astronauts who were the first humans to visit the Earth's moon and the home of the venerable work-

horse of space—the shuttle.

Once aboard ISS, the crew re-supplied the station with food, water and experiments. Making routine repairs, the crew also learned the difficulties and the marvels of space travel, ranging from working in the cumbersome space suites required to maintain life in lifeless space to the exhilaration of weightlessness and the oddities of life in that weightless environment.

Working closely with the international astronauts, NCS members learned that discipline is required to accomplish even the most routine of tasks and that forgetting that discipline places them and their fellow space travelers in unforgiving peril that could mean instantaneous disaster for all.

The team is an inspiration to future adventurers with an eye to the sky and an unquenchable desire to push the limits of ability and accomplishments.

Truly, if a person is willing to extend the effort and keep their eyes on their goals, the future astronauts from NCS can make even the ISS pale in comparison to what they can achieve in the years to come.

Mars—Here we come!!!



CIVIL AIR PATROL LEADERS MEET WITH HOMELAND SECURITY SECRETARY!

by Melanie LeMay, Public Relations Specialist, National Headquarters Civil Air Patrol

Civil Air Patrol leaders told Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge at a meeting this month that CAP volunteers can help rein in the costs of national security.

With more than 64,000 members nationwide, CAP, the official auxiliary of the US Air Force, already has aircraft and trained personnel set up to handle security missions.

CAP has successfully completed a number of such missions since Sept. 11, including high-profile reconnaissance over the World Trade Center, the 2002 Olympics and the launch of space shuttle *Columbia*.

CAP leaders say the group is willing and able to do more.

"CAP has the largest privately owned fleet of single-engine aircraft in the nation," said Maj. Gen. Rick Bowling, CAP national commander and one of those who met with Ridge at his office at the Nebraska Avenue Center in Northwest Washington, DC. "We can put one of those planes in the air for \$90 an hour, as opposed to several thousand dollars an hour for military aircraft or helicopters."

CAP members are all volunteers, Bowling said, and are trained in field-tested programs for aerial reconnaissance, search and rescue, narcoterrorism and disaster relief. CAP is also adding the larger Gippssland Airvan to its fleet and outfitting its planes with new kinds of surveillance equipment.

Bowling says CAP has already restructured its mission rating system to rank those related to homeland security as "A1" missions. Search and rescue missions formerly held that designation, but now are considered "A2" missions.

"The face of CAP is changing," Bowling said. "CAP can be part of the nation's vision for homeland security as it's devel-

oped from the ground up."

The meeting with Ridge was the culmination of a 14-month effort by CAP leaders to reframe the organization's goals in light of new concerns about homeland security. Starting with a concept of operations based on the Air Force model, CAP leaders worked through the office of Brig. Gen. Dave Clary, Air Force chief of Homeland Security, to see how the nation could best take advantage of the infrastructure CAP had already developed. Clary was also present for the meeting.

Also supporting CAP has been Sen. Tom Harkin of Iowa, a pilot who is commander of the CAP Congressional Squadron and was recently appointed to the Senate's Homeland Security Committee.

This is the first time Ridge has met directly with CAP leaders since taking over the homeland security job, but Ridge was familiar with CAP from his tenure as governor of Pennsylvania.

"Historically, Pennsylvania has been at or near the top of the list in state appropriations for CAP," Bowling said.

Joining Ridge for the meeting were Deputy Secretary Gordon England and Asa Hutchison, Undersecretary for Borders and Transportation Security. Col. Rick Greenhut, CAP's Northeast Region commander, delivered the formal presentation for the hour-long meeting. Others present for the discussion were Bowling, Clary, Col. John Swain, deputy commander of the CAP Congressional Squadron, and Col. Rich Anderson, Air Force chief of the CAP division of the Air Force Homeland Security Directorate.

Source: *NEWS OF THE FORCE: Friday Morning, April 11, 2003*

NCS COLOR GUARD PRESENTS COLORS!

By C/Amn Ashley Conner

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA—24-Apr-03 Nellis Cadet Squadron, Civil Air Patrol Color Guard presented colors during the opening exercises of the talent competition at O'Callaghan Middle School this month. Members presenting the Colors were, c/SAmn Nancy Brown, Senior Flag Bearer, c/SAmn Andrew Roper, Organizational Flag Bearer and Guards c/Amn Ashley Conner and c/SAmn Aaron Griffith.

Presenting Colors under the watchful eyes of three or four hundred people can be a daunting task, but we did well and made our squadron proud.

The NCS Color Guard is hoping to receive many requests in the future as our NCSPAT becomes more and more active.

SPLASH FOR CASH! LEARN AND EARN

NOW AVAILABLE! An opportunity to learn CPR, receive lifeguard training and add to your CAP learning experience.

Clark County, Nevada and the American Red Cross are now providing great opportunities to train AND become part of the lifeguard force protecting the summer fun seekers, all while earning a paycheck.

For \$25.00 to \$90.00, cadets 16 years or older can begin working at one of many local water recreation facilities in Clark County. Not only is the opportunity great for summer cash, it will provide a skill you can use throughout your lifetime.

For more information please contact Lt. Col Richard Brown



NCS PAYS A VISIT TO THEIR BIG BROTHERS, THE HISTORIC 66th SEARCH AND RESCUE SQUADRON!

by Bob Conner, NCS PAO

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA – 29-Apr-2003
Nellis Cadet Squadron, Civil Air Patrol paid a visit to their big brothers of search and rescue this evening. Receiving a briefing from Sr Airman Jay Flynn of the 66th Search and Rescue Squadron, Nellis Air Force base, the cadets learned first-hand from the professionals of combat search and rescue the complexities, difficulties and dangers of combat search and rescue missions and the capabilities of their primary “ride” the HH-60 *Pave Hawk*.

The historic 66th traces its roots to Royal Air Base in Manston, England. Original activation on the 14th of November, 1952, deactivated in 1958 and reactivated again on March 1, 1991 to fulfill its primary mission, that of combat rescue. Geared for worldwide deployment, the 66th RQS is capable of taking their skills to any combat theater across the globe at any time.

One of only four Air Force active-duty HH-60 combat rescue units, its secondary mission is to provide rescue support for air operations over the Nellis Range Complex and back-up rescue for civilian agencies in the local area and the greater Southwestern United States. Depending on the mission, a typical rescue crew includes a pilot, co-pilot, flight engineer (FE) and two pararescue men, commonly referred to as “PJs.” PJs are qualified combat paramedics, scuba divers, parachutists, mountain climbers and survivalists. Earning their “green feet” (tattoos symbolizing their success in completing the arduous USAF Pararescue School), the members of the 66th hold in absolute reverence, their shared abilities, successes and camaraderie.

The United States Air Force deployed the 66th in 1993 in support of Operations Northern and Southern Watch, the first time since the war in Vietnam that an Air Force rescue unit had been deployed to a combat zone. Since then, the 66th has been involved in many deployments, both for training search and rescue and combat missions.

Very intrigued and captivated, the cadets

asked many questions with responses from 2Lt Heather Hall, SrA Jay Flynn and Staff Sergeant Rich Kelly of the 66th. SSgt Kelly explained his primary function aboard the *Pave Hawk*, that of “Door Gunner.” A very serious job, but one SSgt Kelly “thoroughly enjoys.” “We certainly have a lot of protection, in fact the HH-60 is capable of taking hits from projectiles as large as golf balls and remain in the air.” “The *Pave Hawk* is a very sturdy machine.” As SSgt Kelly and SrA Jay Flynn continued to describe the capabilities of their favorite machine, the cadets of NCS were treated to a tour of the flight line and one of the rescue helicopters of the 66th.

With thoughts of future possibilities consuming their imaginations spurred on by their “big brothers,” the cadets took to the skies in their rotary-powered steed, providing combat search and rescue operations over battle zones around the world. Pulling their fellow pilots and crews from jungles and deserts alike, the cadets earned their “green feet”, returning to reality true hero’s of the air.

Imagination surely took flight tonight!

The cadets and seniors of the Nellis Cadet Squadron, Civil Air Patrol wish to thank the 66th for their hospitality and willingness to take the time to “stoke the coals of imagination”.

**We are proud to be a part of the
United States Air Force!**

Civil Air Patrol, the official Air Force Auxiliary, is a nonprofit organization. It performs more than 85 percent of inland search and rescue missions in the continental United States as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center. Volunteers also take a leading role in aerospace education and serve as mentors to America’s youth through CAP Cadet Programs. For more information about Civil Air Patrol programs, call Nellis Cadet Squadron, call 702.207.2559 or email bobconner@lvcn.com